The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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It is the act of a bad man to deceive by falsehood.—Cicero.

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TRADE UNIONISM UNIQUE IN WORLD'S HISTORY

There is no institution like trade unionism.

The trade unionist believes in saving himself.

All other movements that he is asked to accept are based on the "let-me-save-you" theory.

The political-action advocate would lead workers into his promised land. The employer has welfare schemes, his "American" plan and his company "union." Both pledge everything to the worker but ownership in himself.

They would have the workers depend on them.

The trade unionist rejects the political zealot and paternalism of employers. They are the modern serf concept.

The trade unionist has faith in himself. He rises to the dignity of manhood and insists on a voice in conditions whereby he earns a living for himself and dependents.

With this as his base, he expands his activity into every field of life. He progresses, day by day, just as far and as fast as his intellectual capacity will permit.

Development of the individual worker, through collective action, is slow and imperceptible to surface observers. It is the one thing that distinguishes trade unionism from all other movements.

Workers in other times have united, but they accepted the serf ideal. They did not demand a voice in industry and in molding a sound public opinion that is the basis of law.

Talk of a "conservative" or a "radical" trade unionist is word-play. The trade unionist who understands his philosophy does not depend on emotionalism. He has no faith in soul-stirring appeals that cause men to soar to dizzy heights or who are led to believe there are easy roads to a better day.

The trade unionist plumbs the depths of life. He knows social viewpoints are changed through continuous agitation.

Trade union opponents are well aware of its slow, glazier-like purpose. The so-called "radical," with his "let-me-lead-you" plea, and the reactionary employer with his serf ideal, make common cause in checking the intellectual development and collective capacity of workers.

Let no trade unionist be affected by terms. "Conservative" and "radical" mean nothing. Principle alone counts.

Trade unionists should cling to the philosophy of organizing the workers, of expanding their intellect, of developing their collective capacity. These will equip them for playing a man's part in approximating ideals in Jefferson's Declaration.

USUAL ROUGH HOUSE USED BY COMMUNISTS

New Bedford, Mass., June 23.—Communists are applying their usual tactic in the strike of 30,000 textile workers who are resisting a 10 per cent wage cut, announced April 16.

The first weeks of the strike was marked by an absence of violence and a city-wide sympathy for the workers' movement. The strikers were members of an organization dual to the legitimate United Textile Workers' Union, but they solidified their ranks by joining the regular labor organization.

This unity did not suit the "reds." They then formed an independent union—the New Bedford Textile Workers' Union, and are challenging the police at every opportunity. Several of the "reds" have been jailed.

The strikers appeal to the public not to have their attention detracted by these clashes with the police.

Starvation is the employers' hope to defeat the strikers. This city makes a fine brand of cotton goods that is not produced in any other section of the country. The mill owners were forced to abandon their claim that southern competition is responsible for the wage cut as the workers proved that less than 8 per cent of the country's fine-goods looms are located in the South.

The New Bedford Times has given valuable aid to the workers by its survey of wages in New England mill towns. The survey shows that almost every class of labor in New Bedford's fine-goods mills was paid lower wages than the average even before the wage cut.

POWER TRUST IS IN POLITICS; ALWAYS SINGS OTHER SONG

Washington, June 23.—"When private owners of public utilities say they fear government ownership will put power into politics, their one fear is that it will be taken out of politics," said Senator Norris in an article prepared for Plain Talk Magazine. "Every privately owned utility in the world is actively engaged in politics," said Mr. Norris. "The power trust mixes into politics in the election of every board of aldermen in the smallest village in the country. It is in politics in the selection of every governor. It is in politics in the election of every member of the House of Representatives and Senate. It contributes liberally to every presidential campaign.

"If the United States government cannot control the power trust, the power trust will control the government. It already has advanced perilously far in that direction. The power trust is riding Uncle Sam like the mythical old man of the sea rode Sinbad the Sailor, and the one sure method by which its strangulation grip can be broken is government competition.

"Nothing like this gigantic monopoly ever before has appeared in the history of the world. It dwarfs the Standard Oil Company in magnitude. In the face of such a concentration of capital, industrial control and political power, the state and national governments can maintain their economic freedom and the ability to govern themselves only by prompt, constructive action.

"Rival companies already have been swept from the field. The only remaining organization great enough to meet the power trust on equal terms is the government itself."

EARLY CLOSING UPHELD

San Francisco, June 22.—The Superior Court has upheld the 6 o'clock closing ordinance.

PUBLIC UTILITIES "EDUCATE" MILLIONS OF SCHOOL KIDDIES

Washington, June 23.—Secret conferences with educators enabled the power trust to dictate what millions of school children shall be taught, was revealed at the Federal Trade Commission's probe of the public utilities.

The testimony showed that Ginn & Company, publishing 12,000,000 textbooks yearly, had an agreement with the power trust for a yearly review of books on economic subjects by a committee representing the utilities.

It was shown that the power trust **eliminated reference to the contributions of Samuel Insull, Mid-West utility magnate, to political parties. The Insull interests were dominant in the "review-ing" of textbooks to root out "incorrect" and "misleading" information before they reached school children.**

H. J. Gordon, publisher of Public Service Magazine, acknowledged that nearly 300 of the 750 shares of stock of his company are owned by utility companies and their executives, including the Insull interests. More than 27,000 of its monthly subscription list of 30,000 is subsidized by the power companies.

These companies send the magazine to members of State Legislatures, the highest public officials in the country and other influential persons, admittedly to sway public opinion on political and economic issues in which the utilities have an enormous stake. The magazine was a leading opponent of the Boulder Dam project.

A "scientific" study of municipal ownership plants showed that this system has proven disastrous, but Gordon admitted the survey was financed by the power companies. The publisher said he started the magazine 22 years ago on a $500 "shoestring," and that the power companies put him on his financial feet.

REVOCATION OF LAWS AGAINST TRUSTS URGED

Washington, June 23.—"The man who wants to buy a coat for $9.98 that it costs $15 to make is not a good American citizen," said Ethelbert Stewart, Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, in an address to the Portland Cement Association.

The speaker said that if such price-cutting tactics become general they demoralize the industrial situation, reduce the standard of living and cut wages.

"When I say cost $15," said Mr. Stewart, "I mean cost under an intelligent, efficient and productive system."

The federal economist called for a repeal of obsolete laws against trusts. These statutes, he said, were passed 30 years ago when the people feared the words "association" and "combine." The Department of Labor, he said, realizes the time has come when there must be association of industry to deal with matters of cost of production, selling and the stabilizing of employment.

"Any combination, association or trust organized to regulate a business so as to keep its people steadily employed, its plants steadily in operation, its output regular and of a high quality, such associations are nobody's business and are of benefit to the whole public. The only point at which the public has any interest beyond that of approval is when such an association undertakes to unfairly dictate a price of the commodity—and I mean unfairly."

STEWART ACQUITTED OF CONTEMPT CHARGE

Washington, June 23.—Robert W. Stewart, chairman of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, was acquitted of contempt charges by a jury in the District of Columbia Supreme Court.

He was accused of refusing to answer questions of the Senate Teapot Dome committee concerning Liberty bonds handled in deals of the Continental Trading Company, around which the oil scandals have revolved for the past four years.

Stewart's leading counsel sneeringly referred to "those snooping, spying Senators" who rescued priceless natural resources from the looters.

Senator Norris, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, termed the acquittal an "outrage against justice."

"It demonstrates clearly," said Mr. Norris, "that if you have money enough to hire lawyers, you will be found not guilty, even though you admit you are guilty."

Stewart first appeared before the Senate committee last February. He said he knew nothing of the Continental deals. One month later, when Harry F. Sinclair was acquitted of conspiracy charges, Stewart told the Senate committee he received $750,000 in Liberty bonds from the president of the Continental company.

It was this contradictory evidence that caused John D. Rockefeller, Jr., to ask Stewart to resign from the Indiana Oil Company directorship. Stewart ignored the request.

CHICAGO CLOAK WORKERS SECURE 40-HOUR WEEK

Chicago, June 23.—Workers affiliated to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union won the 40-hour, five-day week. This gain follows similar action by New York cloak workers.

In both cities the short work week is opposed by small unorganized shops who depend on Communists to destroy the new conditions.

Employers in New York acknowledge the "reds" offered to sell out and act as strikebreakers in the hope of smashing the union.

FOOD COSTS ARE UP

Washington, June 23.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that during May the average cost of food in 46 of 51 cities, Louisville lends with 4 per cent increase. Baltimore, Birmingham and Cincinnati reported 3 per cent. The decreases were in Providence, Rochester, San Francisco and Portland, Ore.

Continued upward movement of wholesale prices is reported.

FAVORS 7-HOUR DAY

Sacramento, Calif., June 23.—The seven-hour day is the most efficient for state employes, according to Alexander R. Heron, director of finance. Efficiency tapers off rapidly after seven hours, he says.

TEAMSTERS HAVE WON

Edmonton, Canada, June 23.—Every teaming concern in this city but one has accepted the teamsters' new wage rate of $4.50 a day and time and one-half for overtime and holidays.

WHY AN INJUNCTION?

A Seattle employer has secured an injunction against organized teamsters, whom, he alleges, are "interfering" with his employes.

If the unionists attempt to persuade, to induce, the non-union teamsters to join with organized labor, where is the offense? Why can they be enjoined?

If the unionists threaten, or intimidate, or resort to violence, they violate the law of the land. How can an equity judge act in this case?

The labor injunction defender will not attempt to answer these questions.

He believes employers have a property right in employes and any interference with such property right comes under equity.

When courts take steps like these constitutional rights are ignored for the one question—protection of property.

The new definition of "property" wrecks government by law and enthrones the kingly idea—government by one man.

OLD WAR WHOOPS DISCARDED

Business interests are favoring a bill pending in Congress that would permit manufacturers to place a price on their goods below which retailers can not sell.

"Business men are being strangled by unfair competition of cut-price stores," says one advocate of the bill.

What would happen if the trade union movement urged a law against workers offering to labor at a price below the union scale?

How quickly the "law of supply and demand" would be dusted off and paraded before the public.

EMPLOYES ARE JOBBED IN FAKE "CO-OP" DEAL

New York, June 23.—Employes of the Johns-Manville Company are attempting to secure judicial relief from a deal which jobbed them out of stock in this concern that they bought with the understanding it would be operated on the "co-operative" plan.

Under the will of the late Thomas F. Manville, asbestos king, the employes purchased 40,000 shares at one-half its market value.

When Hiram E. Manville, brother of the deceased, took charge of the company he induced the employes, they assert, to surrender their stock to the Manville claimed, according to the employes, that unfriendly interests were attempting to gain control of the company and that if he were to run it for their benefit and with the co-operation his brother had decided, it was necessary for him to have their stock.

After he accumulated the stock, the plaintiffs charge, Manville, who owned 90,000 shares, arranged a split-up of the shares, declared a heavy cash dividend and then sold the company's control to J. P. Morgan & Co.

The employes find themselves without the stock and with no friend in the corporation. They ask the court to order a return of their property or its equivalent in money.

FEW STEEL SHARES BOUGHT BY WORKERS

New York, June 23.—Steel trust employes subscribed to 95,082 shares of steel common stock. They are to pay $145 a share. The number of employes taking advantage of the offer was 50,270. This includes the managerial and office staffs. Last year 61,235 employes subscribed to 131,427 shares.

WHEAT MACHINERY CUTS LABOR DEMAND

Washington, June 23.—The use of machinery in harvesting wheat has lessened the demand for harvest workers, according to the employment service of the Department of Labor.

Wheat harvesting starts in Texas in June and the workers move northward as the season advances.

20,000 OIL WORKERS GRANTED 6-DAY WEEK

San Francisco, June 23.—Oil well drillers in this state have been placed on a six-hour day, as a result of conferences with oil operators and Will J. French, director of the state department of industrial relations. Approximately 20,000 workers are benefitted.

The state law makes the seven-day work week illegal, but this has been ignored by the oil operators. The one day in seven shutdown will aid them in their production curtailment campaign. Too much oil has reduced profits and efforts are being made to check excessive output.

WILL ARBITRATE

Bridgeport, Conn., June 23.—Striking hod carriers returned to work and will arbitrate a higher wage demand.

WORKERS BEING OUSTED WHEN THEY REACH FIFTY

Washington, June 23.—Arbitrary discharge of workers, regardless of fitness at a determined age, appears to be becoming a general policy of employers, according to Secretary of Labor Davis.

The tendency, he said, is to fix the age of retirement at a limit progressively lower.

"This policy is unsound," said Mr. Davis. "Science has lengthened the life of the worker, and machinery is doing less and less of the work formerly done by the worker's physical strength.

"Skill and experience in a worker are worth more than mere physical strength, and the skilled worker of 60 is apt to be a greater asset to his employer than the inexperienced worker at 20."

CLERKS NOT NEEDED IN NEW CHAIN STORES

New York, June 23.—A nation-wide chain of automatic department stores, where goods will be sold by talking automatons is planned.

Each store will be operated and governed by robots. The stores will handle small package commodities so well known that personal sales effort will be unnecessary.

Machines will change any coin up to a half dollar and deliver the change in any form desired.

Unions Pledged to Non-Partisan Politics; Members Alone Can Change This Principle

A. F. of L. Convention, 1906

The solidarity of our movement must not for a moment be permitted to be endangered by the attempt to identify it with a partisan political movement. We must have with us, in our economic movement, men of all parties, as well as all creeds, and the minority right of the humblest man to vote where he pleases and to worship where his conscience dictates must be sacredly guarded. We may properly furnish him the facts as they occur in the legislative field, the records of legislators, etc., and then leave him to use his own political judgment.

Your committee, however, does not feel called upon to even ask this convention to say whether an independent labor party is a desirable thing or not. Our membership can settle that matter for themselves. We do say, however, that the attempt to delegate any authority, by the convention, to form political organizations on any specific lines, would to that extent, identify the Federation of Labor with a party movement and inevitably vitiate one of the most fundamental principles of trade unionism.

Political movements are ephemeral. The trade union movement is not alone for today; its existence is too valuable to be staked on success in the political arena. The political wooden horse bears within it those who would destroy the walls of our now impregnable defense.

At the risk of repetition, we desire to make our position clear, which we ask this convention to assume. We are not a political party. We disclaim political party jurisdiction. We set up no claim of authority over the political acts of our membership. We could not, if we would, for all the political authority we might assume, vitiate the protection due every man from the union which grants him his card.

If we are to create new tests of regularity in unionism we must first obtain new power from the affiliated bodies which make up the Federation.

STUDENTS OPPOSE WIRE TAPPING RULE

New York, June 23.—Lawyers and constitutional students are dissenting from the United States Supreme Court's legalization of wire tapping by prohibition agents.

The 5-to-4 decision, handed down June 4, included strong minority opinions by Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Butler and Stone.

Specialists in constitutional law agree that the decision offers indirect sanction for criminal conduct on the part of federal agents which will interfere with state laws that make wire tapping illegal.

To admit evidence obtained by wire tapping seems hardly less than a revival of the general search—the governmental "fishing expedition"—execrated by the framers of the Constitution and expressly repudiated by the latter half of the Fourth Amendment," declares the Columbia Law Review editorially. "The framers of the Constitution sought to secure the individual from spying individual governmental investigations into his private life and activities. The fact that modern invention has made possible the obtaining of evidence, otherwise unobtainable, except by trespass, should not change the legal result.

"A letter seized from the mails by federal officials has been excluded as evidence under the federal evidence rule. It is not a valid ground for distinction that a conversation and not tangible property was seized; for it is the evidence as such and not its physical form which is important."

PROFESSORS MEET; UTILITIES PAY WAY

Washington, June 23.—Public utilities representatives roamed at will through educational institutions of the Southwest, and particularly Texas, according to testimony before the Federal Trade Commission.

The public utilities paid expenses of meetings of professors called by Dean C. O. Ruggles, formerly of Ohio State University, at New Orleans, to discuss utility courses in colleges. Expenses of many of the professors were paid. Dean Ruggles was paid, the last record shows, $15,000 a year to survey textbooks in public schools and eliminate those that are in any way hostile to the private control of natural resources.

Utility men told the commission they had given addresses at Texas colleges and high schools and that women employes were trained by the company to indoctrinate children in grade schools on "technical subjects."

BOARDS SEIZE CONTROL THAT IS DUE CONGRESS

Washington, June 23.—The increase of boards, commissions and agencies that are responsible only to the President usurp the legislative branch of government, said Senator Thomas of Colorado. This centralization of government should be checked by making them responsible to Congress and not to the President, he said.

Mr. Thomas cited the Tariff Commission, the Budget Bureau, the Shipping Board, the Federal Trade Commission and the Interstate Commerce Commission as usurping organizations.

Employers Object To Apprentices Probe By Federal Bureau Reveals

Washington, June 23.—The claim that building trade unions oppose apprentices is refuted by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics in a study of this question.

The investigation shows that "it is much harder to find an apprentice in a non-union shop than a union shop."

"If union regulations were in fact responsible for restricting opportunities for apprentices," it is stated, "one would expect to find greater development in anti-union centers. Only three anti-union contractors were encountered in the course of the investigation who had more apprentices than they would have been granted under union agreements.

"Those most closely in touch with the situation—school authorities, managers of apprenticeship committees and contractors who are cooperating to the limit of their ability—do not hesitate to declare that the individual contractor is chiefly responsible for the shortage of apprentices and the absence of a training system. Shortsightedness, indifference and selfishness are the charges brought against their colleagues by the contractors who are carrying the load of apprentices for the industry.

"The expression most frequently used by contractors is that they 'can't be bothered with boys'. Rapid building makes training on the job not only unprofitable but well-nigh impossible."

The investigation disapproves the claim that boys "drift into the trades."

"The unions everywhere reported long waiting lists of applicants for apprenticeships, and joint committees agree that the problem does not lie in finding material to train."

Estelle M. Stewart, of the bureau, who conducted the investigation, cites the experience of the commission on apprenticeship in one large city, to prove that boys will enter the trades. To arouse interest in apprenticeship, the commission broadcast an address through a local radio station.

"The results were most gratifying and disappointing," said the secretary of the commission. "We were flooded with requests from boys and parents for more information, and with applications for apprenticeships, but not one contractor came forward with a request either for the details of the system or for an apprentice."

AUTO MERGERS LOOM; SMALL FIRMS DOOMED

Mackinaw Island, Mich., June 23.—Gigantic mergers and airplane servicing will change the automobile world within a few years, was predicted by speakers at the convention of the Automotive Equipment Association.

Manufacturers and jobbers are now supplying airports near them and a specially organized national service is to be developed so that planes can find service and equipment available within a few miles of any field where they happen to land.

B. C. Forbes, New York financial authority, told the convention that within five years almost the entire automobile business will be done by strong, powerful corporations.

"Small concerns not protected by patents and managed only by mediocre brains will be squeezed out," he said. "Gigantic organizations are an inevitable development and less than five years will see a possible combination of American business life and methods."

Other speakers agreed that the motor industry is now headed toward fewer companies and mergers of imposing size are a certainty.

SHAM PATRIOTS HARM WORLD PEACE CAUSE

Detroit, June 23.—The Northern Baptist convention condemned the secret blacklisting of earnest-minded men and women who are among "our most eminent workers for world justice and peace."

The report does not mention the name of any organization or individual engaged in the blacklisting, but this method "by individuals or organizations which are masquerading under the cloak of patriotism" was declared detrimental to "the spread of world ideals of justice."

The report is considered an answer to the charges of the American Legion Revolution, which has been quietly circulating names of prominent citizens who are classed as "bolshevik" because they oppose huge military establishments that are given the soothing title "preparedness."

BLACKMER INDICTED

Denver, June 23.—A Federal grand jury indicted Harry M. Blackmer, local oil man. He is charged with perjury and attempting to evade income tax payments. He aided in the organization of the Continental Trading Company of France and is now said testifying at the Sinclair-Fall trials. The French courts will decide whether he can be returned to the United States.

DROP PARTISANSHIP

Vancouver, British Columbia, June 23.—The Trades and Labor Council has withdrawn from the Canadian Labor Party, and another "united front" dream has vanished.

Local unionists will now follow the non-partisan political policy of the A. F. of L. and the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

How Workers Fared In Republican Platform

Washington, June 23.—The platform of the Republican Party, adopted in Kansas City, contains this reference to the misuse of the injunction writ:

"We believe that injunctions in labor disputes have in some instances been abused and have given rise to a serious question for legislation."

Wage standards of American workers is credited to the protective tariff system, and "the Republican Party pledges itself to continue its efforts to maintain this present standard of living and high wage scale.

"The party favors freedom in wage contracts, the right of collective bargaining by free and responsible agents of their own choosing, which develops the spirit that pursues full co-operation which gains its chief incentive through voluntary agreement."

Immigration restriction policies are indorsed.

"Steps have already been taken by the Republican Congress to make (employment in) the (government) service more attractive as to wages and retirement privileges and we commend what has been done as a step in the right direction."

"Stabilization of the coal mining industry which will work with justice to the miners, consumers and producers," is favored.

"A policy of permanent retention of the power sites on public land" has been assured by the federal water powers act, "passed by a Republican Congress," the platform states.

Congress is commended for "further liberalizing the laws applicable to veterans' relief."

"The improper use of money in governmental and political affairs is a grave national evil." Publicity of campaign expenses of the Republican Party is pledged.

No reference is made to the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill and its equalization fee. The platform declares for a "federal system of organization for co-operative and orderly marketing of farm products."

Government operation of ships is favored until such time as private owners are ready to operate "on certain of the essential trade routes."

"The Republican Party pledges itself and its nominees to the enforcement and vigorous enforcement" of the eighteenth amendment.

The administration's foreign policies are indorsed.

State control of public utilities are favored, "while recognizing that at times Federal regulations might be more effective."

No reference was made to the following, which were urged by organized labor:

Amendment of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Protection of children.

Legislation against convict-made goods.

Unemployment relief through public works in time of depression.

More adequate accident compensation.

Reaffirmation of right of free speech, press and assemblage.

Opposition to conscription.

Five-day week.

Amendment of Volstead act to permit 3.75 beer.

Prevailing wage rate on government work when done by private contractors.

Maintenance of inheritance tax and opposition to sales tax.

REGISTRATION OF LABOR

Washington, June 23.—Registration of labor is urged by Secretary of Commerce Hoover as a means of preventing unemployment.

Hoover's plan is to have the Department of Labor keep a record of the number of workers in each industry, and to have the Department of Commerce keep a record of the volume of business in each industry.

RICHMOND LURES LABOR WITH UNTRUTHFUL ADS

Richmond, Va., June 23.—Workers are warned against advertisements for machinists in the nitrogen plant at Hopewell, near here. Wages range from 70 cents to $1.10, the advertisements state. The rate is 65 cents an hour.

False publicity is given the proposed rayon plant, that will not be erected for several months, and developments in Petersburg and Hopewell by the Atmospheric Nitrogen Company. The latter concern has all the men they can use. They are being paid 65 cents an hour.

Organized machinists warn craftsmen to stay away from this section. There is a surplus of metal trades and building mechanics.

COMMUNISTS URGING LOWER WAGE SCALES

New York, June 23.—Communists in this city are willing to work below the scale agreed to by employers and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Samuel Klein, general manager of the Industrial Council of Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers, quotes Louis Hyman, leader of the Communists: "I am advised by the workers to work piecework; to work under the scale, as low as $25 to $30 a week; to work single time for overtime."

The expose came on a petition to call a special convention of miners in this State. The law provides that 5 per cent of the local membership must sign the petition. This would require 4,000 signatures. The "reds" secured 1,273 petitioners and "one-half of them are fraudulent," declared Walter Nesbit, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois district.

UNIONS END DISPUTE

Washington, June 23.—A long jurisdictional dispute between the international unions of metal workers and stove mounters has been adjusted through the good offices of John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department.

This was the first of these knotty problems Mr. Frey has tackled since assuming his present position.

"RED" STRATEGY FAILS

Springfield, Ill., June 23.—Left wingers, save-the-unionites and other communistic elements in this State made the mistake of insisting on a show of strength in the Illinois Miners' Union.

The expose came on a petition to call a special convention of miners in this State. The law provides that 5 per cent of the local membership must sign the petition. This would require 4,000 signatures. The "reds" secured 1,273 petitioners and "one-half of them are fraudulent," declared Walter Nesbit, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois district.